



St. John the Baptist

Roman Catholic

Parish Family

10th & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901

Pastor: *Rev. David J. Loeper*

Deacons: *Luis R. Visot / Lawrence Lonergan*

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 26, 2020

Rectory (570) 622-5470
Rectory Fax (570) 622-4589
Russell Building (570) 628-3002
Website – SaintJohnPottsville.org.

Parish Council President: *Robert Bechtel*
Choir Director/Organist: *David Derbes*
CCD Coordinator: *Lucilla Kochol*
E-mail – stjbparish@comcast.net

Nativity BVM High School (570) 622-8110
Assumption BVM Elementary (570) 622-0106
St. Joseph Center for Special Learning (570) 622-4638

Cemetery Information

John Consugar (570)-449-1675
St. John's Rectory (570)-622-5470

C.C.D.

All children preparing to receive any sacrament must be in a Religious Education Program for two consecutive years immediately prior to receiving a Sacrament. The child must also be a practicing Catholic.

Certificates of Eligibility

Certificates to act as sponsors, Godparents, etc. will only be issued to parishioners who are formally registered with the church and attend Mass on a regular basis.

New Parishioners

Please call the Rectory for an appointment to register.

Bulletin Deadline Tuesday prior to publication.

Sick Calls

Please notify the parish office

Sacrament of Marriage

Please call the Rectory one year in advance.

Sacrament of Baptism

First Sunday of each month at 11:30 a.m.
Second Sunday during 10:30 a.m. Mass
Baptismal Preparation for Parents **MUST** precede the Baptism
Please contact Father Dave for an appointment.

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC,LPC
Direct Telephone: (800) 791-9209

Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection

Pamela Russo, MSW, MS
610-871-5200, Ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR, FR. DAVE

DEAR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS:

Please know that all of you, as parishioners of St. John's, were greatly missed over the weekends. Our seminarian Bobby Rienzo and I remembered all of you in the Masses we celebrate not only for the intentions that were scheduled but for all the parishioners of the parish.

Continue to stay safe and healthy and know that our prayers are with you. As of now, there is no indication as to when Mass and other activities in the parish can resume. Pray for all those who are in any way affected by this whole situation. Know that God will bring good and blessings out of all this. Now is a good time to quiet our spirits and turn to God and allow him to work in our lives. If there is anything we can help you with, please do not hesitate to call the rectory 570-622-5470.

Father Dave

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ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS

A reminder to all parishioners that the church will be open for private prayer and time before the Blessed Sacrament on the following days and times:

Saturday --- 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Sunday --- 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Confessions will be heard on the following days and times:

Saturday --- 10:30 to 11 a.m. and 4 to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday --- There will be no confessions.

Please use the upper side door of the church where the ramp is located.

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Rosary prayed on Facebook
Divine Mercy prayed on Facebook

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FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

The gospel that we will hear this Sunday is Luke's famous passage of the road to Emmaus. Two disciples encounter Jesus although they do not know he's Jesus until they get to the place where they are going and Jesus stays with them. Luke tells us while Jesus was at table with them, He took the bread, said the blessing and broke it and gave it to them. And with that their eyes were opened and they recognized that it was Jesus. The despair of these two disciples turns to joy and they rushed back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples of their encounter with the Risen Lord.

It is likely that we can identify with these two disciples who were on the road to Emmaus, especially during this time of the pandemic. Maybe we have all experienced times of despair and disappointment, things that we wanted to do were stopped or we had overwhelming losses. Perhaps during these times our faith may have been weakened and we were left to question God's plan for us.

But just like the two disciples that we hear about in the gospel this weekend, we need something to bring us out of our gloom during these times. Maybe we need our outlook lifted and our faith regenerated. In three words we need God!

We need God and we need the Mass to give us what we need. It's not unlike our own road to Emmaus. And even though at this point we cannot receive Communion, we can make a Spiritual Communion maybe as we watch the Mass online or on TV. During the liturgy the scriptures feed us teaching us God's ways and his plan for us. And even though we cannot physically receive communion, we can be spiritually nourished in the liturgy of the Eucharist.

This Sunday's gospel tells us that He was made known to them in the breaking of the bread. This is something that is repeated at every Mass. It is the perfect sacrifice, the perfect meal, the perfect nourishment for our souls. And even if we can only spiritually have communion, we can open ourselves up to all it offers so that we can feel the complete joy that energized Christ's disciples to rush out and share the joy of the good news with others.

Hopefully all of you are doing well. Please know of our continued prayers for you during this time. Hopefully we will be reunited at the liturgy again soon.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

(Services are not open to the public)

Monday – April 27

SANTINO ANGELO (Jim & Kate Blackwell)

Tuesday, April 28

BRIDGET TROUTMAN

(John, Cathy, Hannah Kostick)

Wednesday, April 29

ANN UCKELE (Amy & Missy Scheetz)

Thursday, April 30

JOSEPH J. STEFICEK (Larry Steficek)

Friday, May 1

JACK GIBBONS (Matthew J. Kuna)

Saturday – May 2

PETE MESERAVAGE & DAUBERT FAMILY

(Judy Meseravage)

Sunday, May 3

LEO LOTZ (Babe Murphy)

Sunday, May 3

RAMON GRAPSY (Joan Grapsy)

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM – For Dorothy Legutko by Linda Ralston

St. Joseph – IMO JoAnn Heller

by Joe & Barbara Wollyung

Tabernacle – IMO Babe Heller

by Joe & Barbara Wollyung

Sanctuary All Sanctuary Candles

IMO Charlie Schaeffer by Maria Schaeffer

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy

PRAY FOR OUR SICK / DECEASED

We remember in prayer those who are ill. We commend to our Divine Lord all of our aged people and those residing in nursing homes.

Sick: *Joseph Conroy Sr.*

Deceased: *Joseph Wollyung, Eugene Gustitis, Viola Dizenzo, Philomena Loeper.*

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

PRAYER FOR A PANDEMIC

May we who are merely inconvenienced, remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May those who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May those who have the flexibility to care for our children when schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel a trip remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May those who settle for quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love during this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us find ways to be the loving embrace to God and our neighbor.

RICE BOWL BOXES

The Rice Bowl boxes can be dropped off at the rectory or placed in the boxes by the upper side door of church during private adoration times.

EASTER FLOWERS

Because we did not publicly celebrate Holy Week and Easter this year, we reduced the Easter flower order. However, we will provide special flower arrangements for the sanctuary during the Easter Season which will be part of the Easter Flower Memorials. You may still memorialize the Easter flower arrangements during the Easter season by using the Easter Flower envelope that was in your envelope packet. The memorial envelopes can be dropped off or mailed to the rectory anytime during the month of April.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

AND

CONFIRMATION

**... have been cancelled until
further notice ...**

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We appreciate advertisers who support St. John's by advertising in our bulletin. Please patronize their business and let them know you saw their ad in our bulletin.

Rosenberger Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

High Efficiency Gas Boiler Installation

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Ductless Air Conditioning / Heat Pumps

Phone: (570) 622-6541

John & Mike Wollyung, Owners

www.rphservice.com

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- * It's Effective in Catching New Neighbors' Attention
- * It's Advertising Concentrated in Your Neighborhood
- * It Develops Good Community Relationships
- * It's Good For Developing Loyal Customers

FAMILY MATTERS

Health Care Professionals. God bless all those who assist us in caring for our health. They are our neighbors, friends, and even family members. We pray that God will continue to assist them in their efforts to provide healing and comfort in body and spirit.

You pray for my family and I'll pray for yours.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

April 18/19: \$ 2,896.00

*We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving
by dropping envelopes at the rectory,
by mail and online giving.*

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

- All decorations must be removed within 14 days after specified holidays which are: Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day and Christmas.
- All decorations except those flowers or plants planted in the ground, must be removed by **July 1st**
- Placing of artificial flowers in the ground is forbidden.
- All rubbish should be taken with you or placed in receptacles at Cemetery